

MINUTES – Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area
9:00 a.m., Thursday January 22, 2009 Harbor District Conference Room

The Harbor Safety Committee meeting was convened at 10:45 a.m.

Voting members present:

Mr. David Hull (HBHRCD)	Ms. Helene Rouvier (Environmental)
Mr. Bill Earls (Tug Operators)	Mr. Gil Groszmann (Tug Operators)
Mr. Tim Petrusha (Pilots)	Mr. Rich Trygar (Dry Cargo)
Mr. Roy Reynolds (Humboldt County Sheriff's Office)	Ms. Ellen Faurot-Daniels (Coastal Commission)
Mr. John Powell (Pilots)	Mr. Tom Haug (USCG MSD Humboldt Bay)
Mr. Gerald Wheaton (NOAA)	

1. Introductions conducted during ACP meeting.
2. There were no members sworn in.
3. Floor was opened to public comment – Committee members agreed to change the ACP/HSC meetings to 3/19, 5/21, 7/16, 9/24, and 11/19. The meeting time has been changed as well. The Harbor Safety Committee Meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and the Area Contingency Plan meeting will start at 10:30 a.m.
4. Review of minutes of November 20, 2008. The heading date should be changed to November 20, and HSC should be changed to ACP in item #6. Ms. Faurot-Daniels (CA Coastal Commission) moved to accept the minutes with the following changes. Ms. Helene Rouvier (Table Bluff Wiyot) seconded the motion. All members voted to accept as amended.
5. Status/Updates
 - a. Federal Channel Maintenance – shoaling is minimal. The Essayons will be here for 25 days beginning in Mid-April. The Yaquina or its replacement will start here in mid-March and work for 30 days. The NOS Survey work has been done outside the bar entrance and outside the main channel. They will work the north side of the jetty when they return. Soundings and name changes will be applied to the chart. The Army Corp of Engineers is looking at doing beach replenishment north of the north jetty. Mr. John Powell (HBHRCD Pilot) asked about the age of the chart soundings (beach lines) in the channel. He would like more current information. Mr. Gerry Wheaton (NOAA – NOS) will ask if an aerial survey has been done recently.
 - b. Oil Spills – Stern end of Allen Cody will be moved several 100 feet further back from the water by week's end. The F/V Tamara in Crescent City spilled mostly motor oil when it sank. The RP and the Harbor District raised the vessel.
 - c. Abandoned Vessels – no subcommittee update. Mr. Dave Hull (HBHRCD) had his personnel remove drifting floats from the Bay. They removed 5 from near the USCG Station and 1 from near Fairhaven. These floats are of different makes and models, so it seems unlikely they come from a single source. The HBHRCD and City of Eureka will try to tag and inventory floats. Mr. Hull would like to reconvene the subcommittee to refine the direction of its efforts. Mr. Nosbaum (USCG) is interested in making an inventory list, and suggested using the helicopter to do this. The Dune Cooperative would like to investigate options available to remove these floats. They indicated they would contact both USCG and HBHRCD to discuss options with them.

- d. Boater Safety – Mr. Placido (USCG) stated that the USCG and HSU will work together during National Safe Boater Week in May. Mr. Gil Groszmann (Tug operator) noted that the rowers are still passing very near the ends of the docks without lights and call outs on the radio. Mr. Hull asked the committee members if they thought meeting with the rowers annually would be effective. He suggested placing this item on the agenda for the next meeting, and inviting the rowers to attend. Mr. Hull also asked if the USCG could do something to educate the rowers about safety issues and practices in Humboldt Bay. Mr. Placido said the USCG could conduct boardings. We need a drill conductor course in Humboldt Bay, so that this area has someone in place to teach fishermen how to drill. Currently, drill conductors receive lifetime certification, but this will soon change to a 5-year cycle. The cost is approximately \$3,000.00 per person, and is taught in Sitka, AK.
- e. Navigational Aids – Mr. Tim Petrusha (Pilot HBHRCD) reported that buoy 2 has washed to south and east outside the breaker line. The Aspen proposed to put it 200 yards west outside of the breakers with a 4 second flashing red light. Mr. Wheaton will place this in the Local Notice to Mariners. The WAMS request is going out in 2 months.
- f. Ship Traffic – Evergreen Pulp Mill is closed for now, but a new buyer has shown interest. PG&E has new construction planned. This heavy lift project includes bringing equipment in on ships. The first ship draws 16 – 18' and is 275' long. The other is closer to 500' long.
- g. Navigational Chart Changes – Army Corp of Engineers will come into Fields Landing to work. Mr. Wheaton wants to make sure he has the most current information to place on the chart. Mr. Hull stated that the post-dredge survey may be available by the end of May.
- h. Port Security – Mr. Hull will convene the port security team to work on surveillance enhancements. They will work with the Port Peer Group to divide the remainder of the 2.4 million dollars from the Prop 1B grant. They will address team recommendations and recommendations from the vulnerability assessment done by Office of Homeland Security. One million dollars will go towards purchase of a fireboat identified by Homeland Security as a need. Furthermore, the state can't issue bond right now, so we will not purchase anything until it can be bonded. The HBHRCD would like to get Buoy 2 and buoy 9 current meters on-line with real-time feed. HSU has a grant from PG&E to place a current meter at the Fairhaven Terminal to monitor for tsunami threats. Mr. Larkin (HCSO-OES) stated this is occurring in many California ports. These also will eventually become real-time meters.
- i. TWIC – All HBHRCD employees have completed their TWIC applications. These will become active February 28.
- j. Potential Bay Projects –
 - a. The HSU Aquatic Rowing Center rowing dock is going through the permitting process.
 - b. SHN Engineering has a project to assess the best way to address re-use of old creosote pilings. The Kramer Dock at Fields Landing has 700 pilings to address. SHN is tasked with developing a sampling methodology and protocol and how to dispose of the pilings and at what level.
 - c. Winzler and Kelly Engineering firm will finish the re-permitting of the upland dredge disposal site.
 - d. Redwood Marine Terminal will give CEQA notification at the end of the month.
 - e. City of Eureka will propose excavation at the Samoa Ramp and Eureka Boat Basin.
 - f. Arcata plans to address their boat ramp at the end of I Street to improve access.

6. Reports

USCG – none

Army Corp of Engineers – Colonel Janice Dombi is the new South Pacific Division Commander. She will cover the west coast to Utah. There will be a public hearing in Eureka regarding military training EIS. View the EIS at www.nwtrangecomplexeis.com

OHS – none

Customs and Border Patrol – none

OSPR – Mr. Al Storm (OSPR) notified the committee that state employees will start Friday furloughs for the next 17 months. These will occur on the first and third Fridays of every month. OSPR is working on the details, to accommodate 24-hour availability of OSPR staff. Furloughs start in February. The new OSPR Administrator is Mr. Steve Edinger, who would like to attend the next ACP/HSC meeting.

Humboldt County Sheriff's Office – none

NOAA – PORTS is on the website. NOAA wants to expand the one-stop shopping concept for PORTS and CDIP, which monitors waves. Pilots use this information for boarding vessels. CDIP information will be incorporated into PORTS within the next 12 to 18 months. NOAA would also like to incorporate IOOS data into 1 webpage, and incorporating PORTS into the AIS.

Coastal Commission – Ms. Faurot-Daniels will move from the Coastal Commission to the California Department of Fish and Game. She will work on fisheries closure issues and applied technology issues.

The HBHRCD will have a new conference phone to facilitate members who can't attend in person. Mr. Bannan (USCG) offered a USCG phone until the HBHRCD can buy their own. Just let him know ahead of time if the HSC committee needs to use it.

7. Member Reports

- a. Table Bluff Wiyot (environmental) – Clean-up of Indian Island continues with 80 waste drums waiting to be removed. This will cost \$80,000.00.
- b. City of Eureka – Mr. Jeff Ramie reported that the City of Eureka pulled out 3 floats and will pull one tomorrow. They're sinking, and need to be removed. They are cleaning out the launch facilities.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda F. Broadman

Non-Voting Members/Others in Attendance

Mr. Al Storm DFG/OSPR
Mr. Jeff Dayton DFG/OSPR
Mr. Mike Nosbaum USCG MSD Humboldt Bay
Mr. Dave Ammerman ACE
Mr. Garth Baugh MSRC
Mr. Mark Langholz MSRC
Mr. Dan Larkin HCSO OES
Mr. Scott Owen USFWS
Mr. Jeff Slusarz USCG D11
Mr. Augustus Bannan USCG Sector San Francisco
Mr. Josh Zulliger OSPR

Mr. Andrew Jarolimek USCG
Mr. Jeff Poel HC Env. Health
Mr. Jeff Raimie City of Eureka